

Kentucky Department of Corrections

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cyndi Heddleston Promoted to Executive Staff Advisor

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Oct. 13, 2016) – Kentucky Department of Corrections Commissioner Rodney Ballard today announced the promotion of Cyndi Heddleston to executive staff advisor in the Research and Grants Division. In this position she will serve as a member of the Department's legislative team, correspond to legislative inquires and coordinate the Department's cooperative research. Heddleston assumed her new duties Oct. 1.

"Cyndi Heddleston's dedication and commitment have earned her this opportunity," said Ballard. "Her great communication skills and professionalism will make her successful in this pivotal role for the department."

A 13-year employee of the Department of Corrections, Heddleston began her career at the Lexington Probation and Parole Office as an officer. In this role she wrote pre-sentence investigation reports and managed a caseload of probation and parole offenders. In 2009, she became the accreditation manager for the Division of Probation and Parole.

Heddleston administered the Division of Probation and Parole's policy and procedures office, where she oversaw staff training, offender population reporting, policies and procedures, and accreditation through the American Correctional Association (ACA). She also has been heavily involved in the agency's re-entry efforts.

In her tenure with the department, Heddleston has written pre-sentence investigation reports as well as managed a caseload of probation and parole offenders.

Heddleston is a member of the Kentucky Council on Crime and Delinquency (KCCD), ACA, and the Correctional Accreditation Managers' Association. She is graduate of the Commissioner's Executive Leadership Program and has been actively involved as a mentor and project coach for the program. She also served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Namibia, Southern Africa, from 1999-2001.

A graduate of the University of Nebraska – Kearney, Heddleston has a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and social work as well as a master's degree in criminal justice from Eastern Kentucky University (EKU). Heddleston has also worked as a part-time facilitator for the online Criminal Justice Program at EKU.

Editor's note: photo attached